

Marvin P Zimmerman M.D.

October 17, 2003

**Office of the General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910**

To Whom it May Concern:

We have lived in Stony Creek for the last 44 years. My wife and I remember that when we first moved here it was obvious that Long Island Sound was in severe trouble. The pollution was rapidly increasing and the Sound was silting up rapidly. This silting had proceeded at such a rapid rate that, in spite of the oystermen placing large amounts of oyster shell on the bottom of their oyster grounds, the silting and the pollution prevented a set of new oysters for four years running. Around this time, environmental laws were passed which mandated that it was necessary to surround construction and disturbances of land by black plastic and stick retainers and bales of hay, which these days we take as a matter of course. This was aimed at preventing the run off of soil into waterways.

The Federal government appropriated \$100,000 to plant spawning oysters in Pine Creek (exactly where the proposed Islander East Pipeline is to be located). Because of the anti pollution and anti silting measures taken, and this federal project, we had the first set of oysters in four years, and, because of these measures our oyster production has steadily increased over the past thirty years.

The impact of HDD(Horizontal Directional Drilling), with its pouring out thousands of pounds of Bentonite and drilling sludge in the vicinity of these productive oyster beds, will recreate the situation which was reversed thirty years before, and even more rapidly cause a more drastic problem.

23 Prospect Hill Road Stony Creek Ct. 06405-5711 USA

Marvin P Zimmerman M.D.

When the Islander East proposal was first made, I contacted a large company with extensive experience in HDD. The manager indicated to me that, since the exit of the HDD was under the open Sound, the drilling could not legally be done because it would violate the Clean Water Act. Until this time HDD has only been used where both ends were on solid land where the waste could be dealt with and not run free into the water.

Since we are situated on Stony Creek Granite, it is hard to imagine this drilling could be successful since it would have to go through long stretches of this dense granite. We therefore would be faced with this project being converted to trenching which would be even worse--witness the electric cable from New Haven to Long Island which has not been allowed to start transmission because they could not bury it deeply enough due to the rock, as well as the Iroquois gas line which was placed under Long Island Sound, from Milford CT to Long Island over twelve years ago by trenching. There is today still severe damage to oystering in this area and the industry has yet to see a return to its previous prosperous state. Islander East would then want to be allowed to change their application, having spent much money without adequate research, and make the public suffer further destruction of the environment due to Islander East's wrong headed pursuit of this project.

It is very easy to see this happening in Branford if Islander East is given permission to proceed. One can easily imagine their tearful presentation of all of their monetary outlay going to waste. Allowing them to proceed will result in further degradation of Long Island Sound!

Please do not let this happen. Stop this terrible pipeline project!

23 Prospect Hill Road Stony Creek Ct. 06405-5711 USA

Marvin P Zimmerman M.D.

Sincerely yours,

Beverly Zimmerman

Marvin P. Zimmerman MD

23 Prospect Hill Road Stony Creek Ct. 06405-5711 USA

Raymond Mount
Riverside Drive
Branford, Conn. 06405-3951

5/16 03

Dear Jim

As a Branford resident

for 40 odd years I am

opposed to Alexander East

Project on the grounds that

it will do harm to Long St

about a 1/2 mile

The present meeting on 11/14

as well as will be difficult

to a

Yours

Raymond Mount

Office for the General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter written to express our opposition to the proposed construction of the Islander East Pipeline from an existing gas transmission facility in the Connecticut town of North Haven through the towns of North Haven, North Branford and Branford and across Long Island Sound.

As currently planned, this pipeline will have a tremendous negative environmental impact on three land trust properties, adjacent conservation wetlands and uplands, Long Island Sound shellfish beds and seal sanctuaries. It threatens to upset toxic lands potentially sending contaminants into the public water supply. It passes 50 feet from a private grade school and will travel parallel to a trap-rock transporting railroad line where derailments may occur.

As proposed, the Islander East Pipeline is unsafe and will cause untold damage to our environment.

We therefore urge you to deny Islander East's appeal for the "coastal consistency" that was previously denied twice by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

Sincerely,

Robert Quinby
Jane Quinby

Robert and Jane Quinby

September 23, 2003

August 28, 2003

Ms. Cori Rose
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

RE: Permit Application No. 200103091

Dear Ms. Rose:

I am writing to comment on Islander East Pipeline's proposed, Permit Application No. 200103091, The Construction of the Cross-Sound Pipeline. I was in attendance on August 5, 2003 at Branford High School when public comment was being heard by the Army Corp of Engineers on the propose pipeline. Although I signed-up to comment, my timeslot, unfortunately, became so late and for business reasons I had to leave.

I have been a commercial lobsterman and shell-fisherman for approximately thirty years in Long Island Sound. I am currently President of the Connecticut Commercial Lobstermen's' Association; and members of the Long Island Sound Lobster Research Steering Committee, and the Lobster Committee Advisory Panel to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; I also serve on the advisory panel to the Lobster Institute in Orono, Maine.

I must say that the assembly of so many Connecticut politicians and their comments of concern or opposition to the pipeline was very impressive and the people responsible for urging their appearance should be congratulated. However, I am skeptical as to their real motive with regard to the environmental issues. Many comments were made urging your office to deny Islander East's application based on environmental impacts to the various fisheries and resources that inhabit the Sound. Research is currently ongoing with respect to the continuing collapse of the lobster fishery and after three years of research and approximately \$6.5 million dedicated to it, we are still no closer to understanding what is killing them. People and politicians are so caught up in the perceived impacts from the pipeline that they are failing to address our current and persistent problems in the Long Island Sound.

In the past three years there have been three health symposiums between Connecticut and New York concerning the health issues in Long Island Sound. I have attended all three symposiums. It occurred to me, that several, if not all of the politicians appearing, responding and commenting at Branford High School on August 5th were nonexistent at any of these various health symposiums.

My company owns and leases approximately 4,000 acres of shellfish ground in the Town of Branford. Several of this acreage will be impacted by Islander East's proposed pipeline. Through several meetings between Islander East representatives and

Ms. Cori Rose
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
August 28, 2003
Page 2

my company, a mutual agreement was made providing for compensation, and more importantly, a restoration program designed to re-seed the impacted acreage. I also own several hundred acres in Branford Harbor that is continuously compromised by sewage plant failures with no compensation by Branford. Branford was recently fined for approximately 100 Clean Water Act violations, which seem to have been ignored by the "concerned environmentalists" speaking out this past August 5th.

I recently attended and participated in a workshop sponsored by Blue Atlantic Transmission System called "Potential Effects of The Construction and Operation of SubSea Pipelines on Lobster Movements and Behavior" held in Providence, R.I., on June 24 - 25, 2003. Representatives from the Army Corp of Engineer were in attendance (See enclosed invitee list for your review) Although the proposed subsea pipeline was not impacting Long Island Sound directly, I thought it was a great opportunity to attend and understand the type of equipment that might be deployed, construction methods, and some of the potential environmental impacts that we can anticipate in the Sound. I found the workshop informative as I am sure your colleagues that attended will agree. I was, however, disappointed that the CT-DEP did not send a representative to the workshop, especially with their public concern of the perceived impacts of a pipeline in Long Island Sound. How disappointing to have missed such an opportunity.

The bottom line is that the proposed pipeline is going through a very affluent area of the Town of Branford and a few prominent people who live in the area were able to orchestrate a powerful political influence under the guise of "environmental destruction" to avoid a pipeline in their neighborhood. This was obvious by their lack of concern for the shellfish beds in Milford, Connecticut, where they would rather have the pipeline.

What upsets me is the fact that the people opposing the pipeline are focusing on it as an environmental destroyer, when their efforts detract from the real and ongoing issues in Long Island Sound. As you are aware, the permission to construct the pipeline by your office should depend upon the information and studies supplied and not by an orchestrated political vote-getting frenzy. I wonder how concerned these people would be if the pipeline was traversing a trailer-park or some other area outside of their view in Connecticut.

Good luck on your endeavor, and one last thought, I find it confusing that our Connecticut DEP Commissioner, Arthur Roque, now opposes the Islander East Pipeline when he voiced his support for the Cross-Sound Cable in New Haven? (see attached)

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Nicholas J. Crismale

David H. Rowe
62 Founders Village
Clinton, CT 06413

August 12, 2003

Ms. Cori Rose
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Re: Islander East Pipeline, File # 200103091

Dear Ms. Rose:

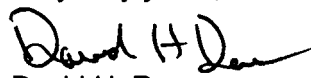
Many comments at the August 5, 2003 public hearing centered on the profit motive of the developers of the Islander East Pipeline project; Duke Energy & KeySpan. Another Duke Energy owned company, Algonquin Gas, has been delivering natural gas to Branford and surrounding area since September 1953. No one commented they had benefited from this energy choice.

Natural gas pipelines in America are financed and built by private industry based on need, supply and demand. The United States government does not build and operate the infrastructure required to keep energy levels adequate to secure a robust economy.

This project has been thoroughly reviewed at the State and Federal level. Both have issued approvals: Connecticut Siting Council, Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need issued August 1, 2002, Docket No. 221 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Order on Rehearing and Issuing Certificates, Issued September 19, 2002.

Political interference should not delay this project further. Please issue the necessary permits that will allow this much needed project to be completed.

Very truly yours,



David H. Rowe

Cc: U.S. Department of Commerce

*Camille Stinton
33 Village Lane
Burlington, CT 06013*

August 10, 2003

*Ms. Cori Rose
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742*

Re: File 200103091

Dear Ms. Rose:

As a Connecticut resident I have followed the application of Islander East Pipeline Company to construct a natural gas pipeline to Long Island. Quite frankly, the Connecticut Attorney General and the DEP are embarrassments. The statement that the pipeline is not a "water dependent use" is absurd. How do you get to an island with a buried pipeline without going into water?

Having lived on Long Island as a child I know the issues of island living and the necessity of having an adequate infrastructure to support the growth and economy. Long Island needs this facility to be completed as soon as possible to slow down the rising cost of energy.

Connecticut residents that oppose the pipeline are narrow minded and selfish. After all, 90% of all gas flowing into Connecticut travels first, through New York State.

The groundswell of opposition in Connecticut can be attributed to a very small group of privileged, politically connected folks that live in an exclusive, private neighborhood on the Branford shoreline. Would they be opposed to this project if it were impacting middleclass, blue collar folks along Route 1? I don't think so. This is nothing more than a high class NIMBY effort by the elite. Their theme continues to be, "anywhere but Branford."

Please Corps, I urge you to approve this project as soon as possible.

Regards,



Camille Stinton

Cc: US Dept. of Commerce

August 8, 2003

Mr. Scott Gudes
Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Islander East's appeal of the Connecticut DEP's denial of the CZM

Dear Mr. Gudes,

I am a Branford, Connecticut resident and have been following the newspaper re: the Islander East Pipeline Project. I am appalled that the political interference in the environmental evaluation of this project has caused it to be delayed. If this pipeline route had been planned for one of Branford's many trailer parks instead of Katherine Kennedy's (daughter-in-law to Senator Ted Kennedy) very private Juniper Point neighborhood, the Islander East Pipeline would have already been built. I urge the Commerce Department to support the Islander East Pipeline appeal and overturn the CT DEP's objection to the CZMA permit application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott D. Keith', written in a cursive style.

Scott D. Keith
12 Mill Plain Road # A
Branford, CT 06405

August 8, 2003

Mr. Scott Gudes
Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Islander East's appeal of the Connecticut DEP's.
denial of the CZM

Dear Mr. Gudes,

I am a Branford, Connecticut resident and small business owner. Branford has benefited by having the choice of natural gas for the past 50 years. 90% of the gas Connecticut receives comes through the state of New York. It is narrow minded to say that this project should not be built because there is no benefit to Connecticut. This facility will provide future opportunities for Connecticut's electric generation plants presently burning oil to convert to the cleanest fossil fuel.

The success of economic growth in our society depends on adequate energy supplies and competitive choices. I urge the Commerce Department to set aside the political interference and base your decision to overturn the CT DEP's denial of the Islander East Pipeline's CZMA permit application on the environmental facts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Intravia', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bob Intravia
BriteLite Promotions
209 Montowese Street
Branford, CT 06405

7 Holbrook Road
Seymour, CT 06483

August 7, 2003

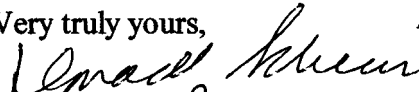
Mr. Scott Gudes
Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Islander East's appeal of Conn. DEP denial of the Coastal Zone
Mgmt. Program constancy concurrence

Gentlemen:

As Connecticut residents we are in favor of Islander East's appeal
and urge the Commerce Department to support their appeal and overturn the
CT DEP's objection to their CZMA permit application. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Donald and Elinor Schiavi

August 6, 2003
44 Bayberry Lane
Branford, CT 06405

Scott Guides
Dep. Under Secretary
Green & Atmosphere
US Dept of Commerce

Dear Mr. Guides

This is a copy of a letter I sent to the
US Army Corps of Engineers in regard to
the effect of the proposed Islander East
gas pipeline to Long Island. I hope you
will find it of interest

Sincerely
Conradus Meyer

Ellie Hanna
600 George's Hill Road
Southbury, CT 06488

Ms. Rose
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742

Re: File 200103091

Dear Ms. Rose:

As a Connecticut resident I favor the completion of the Alexander East -
Algonquin pipeline project. We all know the benefits of natural gas to the
environment and the economy.

These facilities have been delayed enough by political interference. Judging by file
number (2001) it appears this approval is overdue. I urge the Corps to approve this
permit as early as regulations allow.

Very truly yours,

Ellie Hanna

Ellie Hanna

Cc: U.S. Commerce Department

August 5, 2003

I'm Mike Guarniere, North Haven, CT.

I'm a lobsterman and I farm clam beds off of Branford. I should say I used to be a lobsterman. The lobsters are gone. Believe me, I have 500 traps out and can't make expenses. The traps are coming out this week. Commercial lobstering is a thing of the past thanks to the spraying allowed by the Connecticut DEP. The Town of Branford isn't helping any with their over 100 violations of the Clean Water Act in the past 5 years. How can you object to a sealed pipeline that doesn't discharge anything and not object to raw sewerage flowing into the Sound every time it rains? This issue was known by the Town and DEP for years. Where has the DEP enforcement been?

If Connecticut Stop The Pipeline put as much effort into fixing the Branford sewer system as they do trying to stop a pipeline that happens to be near Kiki Kennedy's very private Juniper Point home, the Sound would be a much cleaner place.

The only reason we are here tonight is because some politically connected people on Juniper Point have pulled the right strings. Ask yourself this, if this pipeline were affecting a trailer park and not the mansions on the shoreline would we be having this hearing. I think not, and that is shameful.

***Michael Guarniere
11 Pleasant Drive
North Haven, CT 06473***

Ms. Cori Rose
US Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

File: 200103091—Islander East/Algonquin Gas
Public Hearing-August 5, 2003

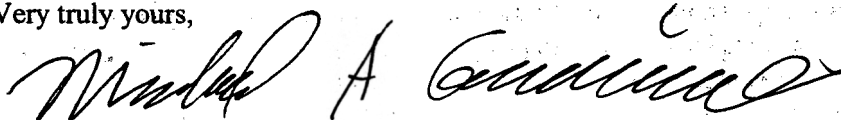
Dear Ms Rose:

Due to the Corps protocol on speakers I was unable to speak at your hearing. Ms. Kennedy filled the room with elected officials thereby denying me the opportunity to speak at a reasonable hour. I have to give her credit, getting her political folks to the mike and keeping anyone in favor of the project in their seats until after 10:00 p.m.

I suggest you put politics aside and evaluate the project on its merits. Natural gas is a benefit to the environment and the pipelines that deliver the gas are carefully routed and procedures are in place for mitigation of impacts. This project has been thoroughly examined and fully permitted with the exception of Connecticut issued permits. It is obvious what is going on here-politics and only politics. Get on with it and issue the Permit.

I have enclosed my prepared remarks for the August 5th hearing and would hope they become a part of the hearing record.

Very truly yours,



Mike Guarniere

Cc: US Department of Commerce ✓

Margaret Palmieri
56 Cedar Knolls Drive
Branford, CT 06405

August 1, 2003

Office of General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

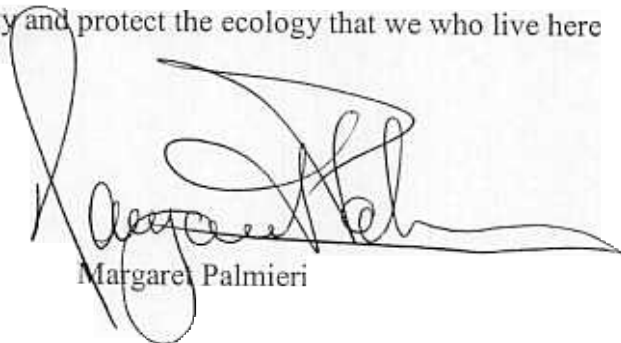
RE: IslanderEast
File Number 200103091

Dear General Counsel:

As a resident and property owner in Branford for the past 10 years, I am writing to implore you to deny Islander East a permit to build a pipeline across Long Island Sound from Branford.

The ecology of our shorefront and waters is of the greatest concern to me. The proposed route and method of drilling under the sound would impact very seriously in a negative fashion thereby damaging the environment of that portion of Long Island Sound

Please exercise your authority and protect the ecology that we who live here treasure.



Margaret Palmieri

202 Thimble Island Road
P.O. Box 3315
Branford, Ct. 06405

August 1, 2003

Office of General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

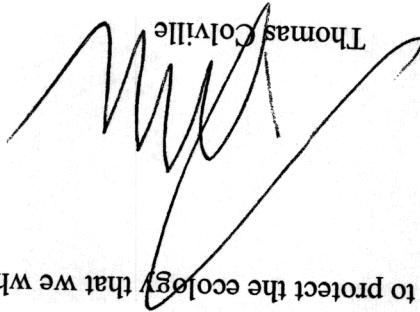
RE: IslanderEast
File Number 200103091

Dear General Counsel:

As a resident of Branford and an owner of property in Stony Creek and on Bear Island in the Thimbles, I am writing to urge you to deny Islander East a permit to build a pipeline across Long Island Sound from Branford.

The proposed route and method of drilling under the sound would have a seriously damaging impact on the environment of the Sound and the area of the Thimbles.

Please exercise your authority to protect the ecology that we who live and work here treasure.


Thomas Colville

CORNELIUS J. CROWLEY
44 BAYBERRY LANE
BRANFORD, CT 06405
July 31, 03

Mrs Cori Rose
U.S. ACOE
Re file 200103091

Dear Ms Rose:

I have been a shoreline resident of Branford for the past forty five years. I am thoroughly familiar with Long Island Sound waters. I am a member of the Branford Land Trust and the Native Conservancy. I am also a founding member of the Connecticut Chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers. I was raised in the Fair Haven section of New Haven, CT in the 1920's when Fair Haven was the oyster harvesting capital of the North East. I do know something of shellfish culture and harvest. In my opinion, most logical route of the gas pipeline proposed by Islander East is to follow the Trap Rock R.R. right of way through Branford to the Long Island Shore at Pine Orchard. The installation of the pipeline on the floor of the Sound will cause less damage to shellfish beds than a strong Nor'easter or a Hurricane from the Southwest. Normal sedimentation happens and

normal shellfish gathering, shell transplanting
and bed mopping for starfish raises
sediment at all times with little damage
to clams and oysters.

Actually, the new waste water treatment
plant in Braunford may be more detrimental
to the shellfish by cutting down on algae
nutrients than the pipeline burying.

My only reservation is the vulnerability
of a 24" dia. pipeline running at 900 psi
crossing exposed on the R.R. bridge on
Route 1 in Braunford. This could be a
hazard, unless protected, from oversize
truck damage or sabotage.

Thank you for listening to my thoughts
Very truly yours

Correllus J. Greenleaf

Jane P. Weld
18 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201
Tel. (718) 643-6190 • Fax (718) 643-6191
e-mail: weldjp@aol.com

By E-mail and Letter

July 29, 2003

Office for the General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U. S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to oppose the application of Islander East Pipeline Company to construct a new gas pipeline through the waters of Long Island Sound adjacent to the Thimble Islands, Branford, CT.

As a summer resident of the Thimble Islands, I join with all other Islands residents to ask you to oppose this pipeline. This is not a question of "not in my backyard." The pipeline presents serious long-term environmental dangers in an area which is already very fragile. We are counting on you to recognize these dangers and begin to address the multiple problems with clarity and professionalism.

- The proposed areas of construction and transmission are composed of significant spawning and nesting areas and a shellfish industry already in trouble. Any disruption of these areas may in fact lead to destruction and loss forever. I call your attention to the several-part series now being run in *The New York Times* which has documented the fragility of this area of Long Island Sound.
- The location of a gas pipe in a high-traffic barge channel in Branford seems a very poor choice. In addition, New Haven is an increasingly-used port, and multiple ships anchoring over the area present additional hazards.
- A much more appropriate, less invasive alternative pipeline route already exists in the Milford, CT to Long Island corridor and has capacity for additional pipelines. As far as we can tell, only corporate greed prevents the energy companies from using the existing Milford corridor. I find this so appalling that I sold my stock in Duke Energy Company.

Thank you for your serious consideration of all the issues.

Sincerely,

Jane P. Weld

Jane P. Weld

6425 Cottage Hill Rd
Mobile, AL 36695
(251) 666-3915
7 24-03

Coastal Area General Council
4 Ocean General 1305 (2nd) Hwy
Room 6111 - (55 MC 4)
Silver Springs, Maryland. 20710
Rear 500,

I want to appeal a decision
from ADEN and Corps of Engineers on a after the
fact permit application #AL02-01214-L-HF/COE
02-026 that was denied. I have a lot of
information showing I was told I could do
this project. I should appreciate it if you
could advise your people there due to hard
ship in the last year. I had two other
heart surgeries, 2 stents, numerous other
problems, if necessary I could mail you
hospital, doctor, etc. bills.

Sincerely
Signed a witness

Emil G. Pavlik, Jr. OS EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAL
18 King Place
Amityville, New York 11701
2003 MAR 18 AM 10:41

March 7, 2002

Honorable Donald L. Evans
Secretary of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing in support of an appeal submitted by Islander East, LLC to overturn the October 15, 2002 denial by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding proposed construction of the Islander East pipeline.

I know the project is in fact consistent with the requirements of Connecticut's federally approved Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM), which is designed to balance our nation's energy interests with the protection of the state's environment.

In respect to environmental concerns, the pipeline's sponsors have taken extraordinary care to minimize environmental impact of the pipeline, thus fulfilling their obligations under the CZM.

Islander East will employ minimally invasive, horizontal direct drilling (HDD) technology that minimizes the need to dig a trench in portions of the pipeline route. It is a technique that has been embraced by such well-regarded, environmental conservation organizations as the Long Island Pine Barrens Society and the Nature Conservancy for helping to significantly reduce the pipeline's impact to the Pine Barrens' core preservation area.

The pipeline will be placed beneath the ocean floor, causing minimum disturbance to near-shore shellfish beds or any other environmentally sensitive areas. Furthermore, offshore construction activity will take place during winter months, when shellfish are less active and less susceptible to disturbance.

Regarding energy-related matters, the Islander East pipeline will help address national and regional energy needs in a number of positive ways.

Long Island's energy shortage is at a critical stage. The New York Independent System Operator -- the not-for-profit corporation that administers the state's wholesale energy market -- has determined that the only solution to Long Island's long-term energy needs is to develop "on-island" generation. The organization has concluded that new sources of natural gas are needed immediately to power electric plants proposed to meet this need and to reduce dependency on fossil fuels. The Islander East pipeline will help solve pressing, energy-related issues at the regional and interstate level by insuring a more fully integrated pipeline system.

The Islander East pipeline thus clearly fulfills the twin goals of the Coastal Zone Management Program. It balances regional and national energy interests with the need to protect the environment.

I therefore respectfully request that the Commerce Department make a judgment in favor of this position by rejecting the DEP denial and ruling that the Islander East pipeline complies with Connecticut's CZM.

Sincerely yours,



Emil G. Pavlik, Jr.